

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2002 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM
PROJECT NUMBER: C-11

- I. Project Title: Grand Valley Project Water Management
- II. Principal Investigator(s): Bob Norman
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- III. Project Summary: Through canal system modification and the corresponding management options, develop a water supply alternative for the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River.
- IV. Study Schedule: Project started with non-Recovery Program funds in 1992. Construction is scheduled for completion in FY2004.
- V. Relationship to RIPRAP: Colorado River Action Plan: Mainstem I.A.3.c.(3)(f)
- VI. Accomplishment of FY 02 Tasks and Deliverables: A contract was awarded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to Grand Valley Water Users Association (GVWUA) for the canal automation improvements and several minor canal improvements. Due to delays in securing project funding and the resulting delay in the contract between the Foundation and GVWUA, work on the canal automation system was only partially completed. The Grand Valley Water Users Association was able to use the check structures in manual mode to reduce canals diversions. GVWUA and Orchard Mesa Irrigation District's efforts were instrumental in stretching upstream storage in the extremely dry year. Although the combined water rights of GVWUA; Orchard Mesa Irrigation, Palisade and Mesa County Irrigation Districts is 1,620 cfs, they operated with less than 1,400 cfs from about July 1 and less than 1,100 cfs starting about August 22. This was not without impacts to irrigation requirements. The automation became operational in the very late irrigation season and will be operational for the 2003 irrigation season.

The decision was made to characterize the use of Highline Reservoir for the pumping plant storage as a lease of storage space. As a Federal action, this constitutes a real estate action and requires an appraisal. Reclamation commissioned an independent appraiser to perform the appraisal. The appraised amount was below the amount the Management Committee's agreed upon amount. The State of Colorado is reviewing the appraisal.
- VII. Recommendations: Need to finalize lease for the use of Highline Reservoir.
- VIII. Project Status: Attempting to catch up from delays in project start due to delays in funding.

IX. FY 02 Budget Status

A. Funds Provided:

Automation system	\$262,003
Appraisal fees	<u>4,350</u>
Total	\$266,353

B. Percent of the FY 02 work completed, and projected costs to complete: Canal automation was is about 50% complete.

C. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: None

X. Status of Data Submission (Where applicable):

XI. Signed: Robert Norman 1/29/03
Principal Investigator Date